

In the Specification:

Please replace page 1, lines 1 to 5 with the following new paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 10/094,675 which was filed on March 11, 2002 and is still pending. That application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/461,120 which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,353,963 on March 12, 2002. That application is, in turn, a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/122,541 filed on July 24, 1998, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,026,540 on February 22, 2000. That application was, in turn, a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/004,999 filed on January 9, 1998 which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,003,196 on December 21, 1999.--

On page 2, before the paragraph beginning on line 15, please add the following new paragraph:

--One known vacuum cleaner design is disclosed by the Model MC-110U product sold by National of Japan. This design is to an upright vacuum cleaner having a nozzle base with a handle pivotally attached to the nozzle base. Secured to the handle is an upper housing including a motor and a filter chamber. The filter chamber includes a dust cup and a filter element mounted to the dust cup via a filter cage. The filter element appears to have a pleated filter medium. The dust cup appears to have an inlet opening at its base and an outlet opening at its open upper end. The filter cage and filter element are mounted to the open end of the dust cup. The motor of the National '110U product appears to be located above the dust cup.--